Toolkit Resource

## Example actions to address gender-based violence

We all play a role in preventing and ending all forms of gender-based violence. As a major public health issue in Australia and globally, responding to and preventing gender-based violence are key preventive health measures.

This document contains examples of gender-responsive actions that can be taken by individual professionals and community members, as well workplaces and organisations.

### Individual profession/practice

* Learn more about indicators that a woman or her children may be experiencing family and/or sexual violence
* Include or expand referrals to domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV) services and mental health support services
* Build on trauma-informed care with continuous professional development
* Incorporate [vicarious trauma](https://www.1800respect.org.au/resources-and-tools/work-induced-stress-and-trauma) training and considerations in practice
* Consider the impact of violence on women’s health and identify ways to address this in relevant practice
* Incorporate [primary prevention](https://www.ourwatch.org.au/what-is-primary-prevention) of gender-based violence into health promotion activities

### Workplace/organisation

* Develop innovative models to address the health impacts of violence against women and girls, particularly focusing on those at greatest risk
* Roll out workforce education about indicators that a woman or her children may be experiencing domestic, family and/or sexual violence (for example, service user, family member or carer of client/patient etc.)
* Access and implement on [primary prevention](https://www.ourwatch.org.au/what-is-primary-prevention) and gender-responsive approaches to health and prevention
* Introduce reproductive health leave, informed by staff and people with lived experience
* Review and expand diversity, equity and inclusion policies to include chronic condition leave and accessibility provisions, recognising the prevalence of chronic conditions for women who have experienced violence
* Include referrals to or consider establishing relevant [health justice partnerships](https://healthjustice.org.au/health-justice-partnership/)

### Community/studies

* Learn more about indicators that a woman or her children may be experiencing domestic, family and/or sexual violence, and local services that can provide support
* Create a campaign at university or TAFE for the [16 Days of Activism](https://www.1800respect.org.au/promoting-1800respect/16-days-of-activism) that integrates women’s health, wellbeing and prevention of gender-based violence
* Engage with community organisations, events and the arts that support women’s health, rights and/or women and gender diverse people with lived experience of gender-based violence

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| Notes* **Could you or a workplace/organisation/community group you know implement any of the suggested actions?**
* **What support might assist in taking these actions?**
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This resource is from the ‘[Introduction to Gender-Responsive Health](https://womenshealthhub.learnworlds.com/course/intro-to-gender-responsive-health)’ e-learning course by Australian Women’s Health Alliance.

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